List of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for use by a first modem to of establishing a connection with between a first modem and a second modem, said method comprising:

eonnecting said first modem and calling said second modem via a telephone line;

performing a handshaking sequence in which identification data is transmitted between said first modem and said second modem, wherein said performing said sequence comprises:

transmitting a pseudo-randomly generated code word to said second modem;

receiving a scrambled code word from said second modem, wherein said

scrambled code word is generated by scrambling said code word;

analyzing said scrambled code word; and

determining if said second modem meets a compatibility criteria based on said analyzing opening a primary data channel.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said identification data comprises information selected from the group consisting of a platform identifier, a controller revision, a DSP revision, and a firmware revision.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 3 1 further comprising optimizing said connection based on said compatibility criteria.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising optimizing said connection based on said identification data.



Claim (currently amended): A The method of communicating from a first modem to a second modem claim 1, wherein said sequence further comprising:

opening a primary data channel;

thereafter opening a second logical channel; and

using said second logical channel to transmitting diagnostic/maintenance data to said second modem using said second logical channel.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises customer platform identification data.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises customer code revision identification data.

Claim 9' (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises modem initialization data.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises a remote query by said first modem of the responses of said second modem to AT commands.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises information regarding the a status of call waiting.

Claim 42 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises remote network management information.

Claim-13 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises system configuration data.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 8 wherein said transferring step transmitting said diagnostic/maintenance data further comprises:

transmitting a command from said first modem to said second modem; and transmitting receiving a response from said second modem to said first modem in response to said command.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises firmware revision data transmitted from said first modem to said second modem.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises uniquely generated call identification data.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein said call identification data comprises time information.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 16 where in said call identification data comprises information regarding the types of modems being connected.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 16 where in said call identification data comprises information regarding which telephone line is being used.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 6 wherein said second logical channel is used simultaneously with said primary data channel.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 20 further comprising:

analyzing said primary data channel and said second logical channel for usage; and prioritizing said primary data channel if both said primary data channel and said second logical channel are simultaneously used.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 further comprising transmitting said identification data on said second logical channel.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim & wherein the diagnostic/maintenance data is used to optimize the connection of the first modem and the second modem.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 further comprising sending AT commands from the first modem to the second modem on the second logical channel; and

sending receiving a response to said AT commands from said second modem to said first

modem.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The method of claim & further comprising sending receiving AT commands from the second modem to the first modem on the second logical channel; and

sending transmitting a response to said AT commands from said first modem to said second-modem.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises a remote query by said first modem of the to responses of said second modem to diagnostic query commands.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The method of claim & wherein said diagnostic/maintenance data comprises a random or pseudo-random number which indexes into a database uniquely or pseudo-uniquely identifying the generated call conditions.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The method of claim 6 further comprising:

sending a query command from the first modem to the second modem on said second logical channel; and

sending receiving a response to said query commands from said second modem to said first modem.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of claim & further comprising:

sending receiving a query command from the second modem to the first modem on said second logical channel; and

sending transmitting a response to said query commands from said first modem to said second modem.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A modem identification method of identifying a for use by a first modem, said method comprising:

placing a call by said <u>first</u> modem to a <u>remote device</u> <u>second modem</u>; entering a physical handshaking process;

transmitting a <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter <u>by said modem</u> to said <u>remote</u> device <u>second modem</u> during said physical handshaking process, <u>wherein said first modem</u> <u>manufacture parameter identifies said first modem</u>;

receiving a second modem manufacturer parameter from said second modem

during said physical handshaking process, wherein said second modem manufacture parameter

identifies said second modem; and

completing said physical handshaking process to establish a data communication session between said modem and with said remote device second modem.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The method of claim 30, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a DSP revision of said first modem.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The method of claim 30, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a firmware revision of said <u>first</u> modem.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The method of claim 30, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is transmitted as part of V.8.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A modem identification method of identifying a for use by a first modem, said first modem being in communication with a host, said method comprising: placing a call by said first modem to a remote device second modem;

completing a physical handshaking process to establish a data communication session between said modern and with said remote device second modern;

establishing an error correction process between said modem and with said remote device second modem, said error correction process having a primary channel, for exchanging data between said host and said remote device second modem, and a secondary channel;

transmitting a <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter by said modem to said remote device <u>second modem</u> via said secondary channel, <u>wherein said first modem manufacture</u> <u>parameter identifies said first modem;</u>

receiving a second modem manufacturer parameter from said second modem via said secondary channel, wherein said second modem manufacture parameter identifies said second modem.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The method of claim 34, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a DSP revision of said <u>first</u> modem.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The method of claim 34, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a firmware revision of said <u>first</u> modem.

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Claim 37 (previously presented): The method of claim 34, wherein said error correction process is based on V.42 Recommendation.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A method of authenticating an identification process for use by a <u>first</u> modem in communication with a <u>remote device</u> <u>second modem</u>, said method comprising:

receiving a random code by said <u>first</u> modem from said <u>remote device</u> <u>second</u> <u>modem;</u>

scrambling said random code, in accordance with a predetermined scrambling process, to generate a scrambled code; and

sending said scrambled code to said remote device second modem to confirm compatibility;

receiving a second modem manufacturer parameter from said second modem in response to said sending said scrambled code; and

transmitting a first modem manufacturer parameter to said second modem.

Claim 39 (cancelled)

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of claim 39, wherein said transmitting occurs during a physical handshaking process.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 39, wherein said transmitting occurs after a physical handshaking process.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The method of claim 39, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a firmware revision of said <u>first</u> modem.

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Claim 43 (currently amended): The method of claim 39, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a DSP revision of said <u>first</u> modem.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of claim 39, wherein said transmitting occurs during an error correction process based on V.42 Recommendation.

Claim 45 (currently amended): A first modem capable of providing exchanging identification data with a second modem, said first modem comprising:

a call module capable of placing a call to a remote device;

a handshaking module capable of entering a physical handshaking process with said remote device second modem; and

a transmitter capable of transmitting a <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter to said remote device <u>second modem</u> during said physical handshaking process;

a receiver capable of receiving a second modem manufacturer parameter from said second modem during said physical handshaking process;

wherein, after said transmitter transmits said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter to said <u>remote device</u> <u>second modem and said receiver receives said second modem manufacturer</u> <u>parameter from said second modem</u>, said handshaking module completes said physical handshaking process to establish a data communication session <u>between</u> with said <u>remote device</u> <u>second modem</u>.

Claim 46 (currently amended): The modem of claim 45, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a DSP revision of said <u>first</u> modem.

Claim 47 (currently amended): The modem of claim 45, wherein said <u>first</u> modem manufacturer parameter is a firmware revision of said first modem.

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Claim 48 (currently amended): The modem of claim 45, wherein said first modem

manufacturer parameter is transmitted as part of V.8.